

PARTISAN DEFENCE COMMITTEE

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL!



**BCM Box 4986
London WC1N 3XX**

**Phone: 07438 878 627
Email: contact@partisandefence.org.uk
X: @PDCBritain**

French Government Targets Turkish Militant Stop the Deportation of Zehra Kurtay!

The Partisan Defence Committee joins Anti-Imperialist Front and other social justice campaigners in demanding an immediate halt to the French state's deportation of Turkish refugee Zehra Kurtay and the restoration of her political asylum.

An anti-imperialist socialist journalist, Zehra Kurtay spent many years as a political prisoner in Türkiye. In 2000, she participated in the death fast, carrying out a 180-day hunger strike against solitary confinement and brutal conditions, and survived the 19–22 December massacre in which 28 political prisoners were killed by state forces. As a result of her ordeal, Zehra was left with permanent disabilities including Wernicke-Korsakoff syndrome—a severe and irreversible neurological disorder caused by long-term malnutrition.

Since being granted asylum in France in 2007, Zehra Kurtay has been repeatedly targeted by the French state for her political views. In the latest attack, Zehra was detained on 26 May during a routine appointment related to her asylum status at the Créteil Préfecture. Despite her being under legal protection and with her asylum process still active, the French government is actively seeking to deport Zehra to Türkiye, where she faces the grave threat of arrest and torture.

The French government's push to deport Zehra Kurtay comes in the context of growing repression against Turkish and Kurdish activists. Facing increased pressure from the imperialist powers and growing discontent at home, the Erdoğan regime is cracking down on domestic opposition in order to stabilise the existing social order. In this it has the support of France and the other imperialist powers who benefit from the oppression and subjugation of the Turkish and Kurdish masses.

Defence of Zehra Kurtay is in the interest of all fighters for social justice and opponents of imperialist oppression. We urge the left and workers movement to take up the Justice Committee for Zehra Kurtay's calls for support. Publicise Zehra's case! Send protest letters in her defence to the French Interior Ministry and the Prefecture of Val-de-Marne! Come to Zehra's deportation hearing, scheduled for 13 June at 9:30 am at the Tribunal Administratif de Melun, 43 Rue du Général de Gaulle, 77000 Melun, France!

**Stop the deportation of Zehra Kurtay!
Down with French government repression against Turkish activists!**

—9 June 2025

The Partisan Defence Committee is a class-struggle, non-sectarian legal and social defence organisation which champions cases and causes in the interest of the whole of the working people. This purpose is in accordance with the political views of the Spartacist League.